



Sean Rogan
Executive Director

**HOUSING AUTHORITY
of the County of Los Angeles**

Administrative Office

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Gloria Molina
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Michael D. Antonovich
Commissioners

June 12, 2012

The Honorable Board of Commissioners
Housing Authority of the
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Commissioners:

**AWARD CONTRACT TO BMC LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT, INC. TO PROVIDE LANDSCAPE
SERVICES TO THE HOUSING AUTHORITY
(ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTE)**

SUBJECT

This letter requests approval of a contract with BMC Landscape Management, Inc., to provide landscape services to the Housing Authority.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Find that the approval of a contract for landscape services is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because the activities will not have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment.
2. Approve and authorize the Executive Director or his designee to execute, amend, and if necessary, terminate a one-year Landscape Service contract (Contract) with BMC Landscape Management, Inc., using up to \$738,114 in program funds included in the Housing Authority's Fiscal Year 2012-2013 approved budget, to be effective following approval as to form by County Counsel and execution by all parties.
3. Authorize the Executive Director or his designee to approve change orders not to exceed \$147,622 to cover unforeseen costs, using the same source of funds.
4. Authorize the Executive Director or his designee to extend the time of performance for up to two additional years, in one-year increments, at the same annual cost and with the same 20% contingency each year, using program funds to be approved through the annual budget process.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of this recommended action is to enter into a Contract with BMC Landscape Management, Inc., to provide landscape services for the Housing Authority.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There is no impact on the County general fund.

The Contract will be funded with up to \$738,114 in program from the following sources: Conventional Public Housing Operating funds allocated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Section 8 Project Based funds from HUD, Local Dwelling Rental Receipts and State Annuity funds through the Rental Housing Construction Program. All funds are included in the Housing Authority's Fiscal Year 2012-2013 approved budget, and funds for future years will be included in the annual budget approval process.

A 20% contingency, in the amount of \$147,623, is being set aside for unforeseen costs, using the same source of funds. The Contract may be extended for up to two additional years, in one-year increments, at the same annual cost and with the same 20% contingency each year.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The Contract will provide for landscape services at 43 housing sites located throughout the County. Under the proposed Contract, BMC Landscape Management, Inc. will perform an estimated 3,455 hours of landscape services each month, depending on specific work needs approved by the Housing Authority. Regular services include trash pick-up, mowing, weeding, bush and tree trimming, and other related tasks. In addition, BMC Landscape Management will routinely maintain and repair the irrigation/sprinkler systems and power-wash the parking lots twice each year. BMC Landscape Management will also perform other services as needed at the direction of the Housing Authority.

The proposed services are being primarily federally funded, and are not subject to the requirements of the Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN) Program or the Greater Relief Opportunity for Work (GROW) Program implemented by the County of Los Angeles. Instead, BMC Landscape Management will comply with Section 3 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1968, as amended, which requires that employment and other economic opportunities generated by certain U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) assistance be directed to low and very low-income persons, particularly to persons who are recipients of HUD housing assistance.

On May 23, 2012, the Housing Commission recommended approval of the Contract award.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

Pursuant to Title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Section 58.35 (b)(3) this action is excluded from the National Environmental Policy Act because it involves activities that will not alter existing environmental conditions. The action is exempt from the provisions of the CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 because it does not have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

On February 8, 2012 a Request for Proposal (RFP) process was initiated to identify a qualified contractor to provide landscape services for both the Community Development Commission and Housing Authority. The solicitation Notice was posted on the Commission website and the County WebVen for 23 days.

Four proposals were received by the submission deadline of March 2, 2012. The proposals were evaluated by an Evaluation Committee (EC) which included one representative from the Commission and two representatives from the Housing Authority. Each proposer provided a Business Proposal and a Cost Proposal. The EC used the criteria established in the solicitation package utilizing the 1,000 points system. On March 12, 2012 the EC met to discuss the scoring for all proposals. Following the meeting, the Procurement Coordinator calculated the informed average score from all EC members' evaluation sheets to determine the final overall score for each proposal. After calculating scores, the EC recommend BMC Landscape Management for the Contract award.

The Summary of Outreach Activities is provided as Attachment A.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The proposed Contract will provide necessary landscape services for the Housing Authority.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean Rogan", followed by a horizontal line.

SEAN ROGAN
Executive Director

SR:su

Enclosures

ATTACHMENT A

Summary of Outreach Activities

Landscape Services

Beginning on February 8, 2012, the following outreach was initiated to identify landscape contractors who are able to provide necessary landscape services for the Housing Authority.

A. Announcement

Announcements were posted on both the County WebVen website and the Commission's Web Site.

B. Distribution of Notices

The Commission's vendor list was used to e-mail out the Request for Proposals (RFP) to 25 landscape contractors, of which 8 identified themselves as firms owned by minorities or women (private firms that are 51 percent owned by minorities or women, or publicly owned businesses, in which 51 percent of the stock is held by minorities or women).

C. Proposal Results

On March 2, 2012, four proposals were received. All four proposals met the minimum requirements and were forward to the three-member evaluation committee for further review. The evaluation committee used the "informed averaged" scoring methodology using a 1,000 points system as established in the solicitation package. The evaluation criteria consisted of qualifications (experience, background, references, etc.) approach to providing the services, quality control, Section 3, Living Wage Program (LWP) and costs. The final evaluation results are as follows:

Rankings	Evaluation Score	LWP Deductions	Final Score
BMC Landscape Management, Inc.	946	0	946
Conejo Crest Landscape	895	0	895
Venco Western, Inc.	718	0	718
American Gardens	693	0	693

A request for information letter regarding labor violations was sent to the Labor Commission of the California Department of Industrial Relations, for all four proposers. The response from the Labor Commission revealed no labor violations for any of the proposers. Therefore, no points were deducted.

BMC Landscape Management, Inc. is being recommended for Contract award based on the evaluation criteria set forth in the RFP.

D. Minority/Women Participation – Selected Agency

<u>Name</u>	<u>Ownership</u>	<u>Employees</u>
BMC Landscape Management, Inc.	Corporation	Total: 33 31 (94%) Minorities 2 (6%) Non-Minority 3 (9%) Women

E. Minority/Women Participation – Firms Not Selected

<u>Name</u>	<u>Ownership</u>	<u>Employees</u>
Conejo Crest Landscape	Corporation	Total: 118 117 (99%) Minorities 1 (1%) Non-Minority 3 (3%) Women
Venco Western, Inc.	Woman Business	Total: 132 131 (95%) Minorities 1 (1%) Non-Minority 4 (43%) Women
American Gardens	Corporation	Total: 48 47 (98%) Minorities 1 (2%) Non-Minority 2 (4%) Women

The Housing Authority conducts ongoing outreach to encourage participation by minorities and women in the contract award process, including: providing information at local and national conferences; expos and vendor fairs, and mailing information to associations representing minorities and women. The above information has been voluntarily provided to the Housing Authority.

The recommended award of Contract is being made in accordance with the Housing Authority's policies and federal regulations, and without regard to race, creed, color, or gender.

**CONTRACT
FOR
LANDSCAPE SERVICES**

This Contract is made and entered into this _____ day of _____, _____, by and between the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles, hereinafter referred to as "Housing Authority", and BMC Landscape Management, Inc., hereinafter referred to as "Contractor."

RECITAL

1. PURPOSE

The Contractor is in the business of providing needed landscape services. On February 8, 2012 in response to the Housing Authority's Request for Proposals, Contractor submitted a proposal to furnish the hereinafter-described landscape services to the Housing Authority.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

2. TERM

This Contract shall commence on July 1, 2012 and shall remain in full force and effect for twelve (12) months until June 30, 2013 unless sooner terminated as provided herein. This Contract may be extended in one-year increments, for a total of two (2) additional years at the sole discretion of the Housing Authority.

3. CONTRACTOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The Contractor agrees to perform in a good workmanlike manner, to the satisfaction of the Housing Authority's Executive Director, all the work described in the attached Statement of Work, Attachment A.

4. COMPENSATION

The Contractor shall submit to the Housing Authority on the 1st day of each month an invoice on a form approved by the Housing Authority for services rendered, as described in Attachment A, Statement of Work. Upon receipt and approval, the Housing Authority will pay the Contractor within thirty (30) days of receipt and approval of the invoice in accordance with Attachment B, Fee Schedule. The yearly amount of compensation under this Contract shall not exceed Eight Hundred Eighty Five Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty Seven Dollars (\$885,737), and the total amount of compensation under this Contract will not exceed Eight Hundred Eighty

Five Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty Seven Dollars (\$885,737), which shall include all related expenses.

The Contractor shall be paid in accordance with the Housing Authority's standard accounts payable system.

The Contractor shall have no claim against the Housing Authority for payment of any money or reimbursement, of any kind whatsoever, for any service provided by the Contractor after the expiration or other termination of this Contract. Should the Contractor receive any such payment, it shall immediately notify the Housing Authority and shall immediately repay all such funds to the Housing Authority. Payment by the Housing Authority for services rendered after expiration or termination of this Contract shall not constitute a waiver of the Housing Authority's right to recover such payment from Contractor. This provision shall survive the expiration or other termination of this Contract.

5. SOURCE AND APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

The Housing Authority's obligation is payable only and solely from funds appropriated through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and, for the purpose of this Contract. All funds are appropriated every fiscal year beginning July 1.

In the event this Contract extends into succeeding fiscal years and funds have not been appropriated, this Contract will automatically terminate as of June 30 of the current fiscal year. The Housing Authority will endeavor to notify the Contractor in writing within ten (10) days of receipt of non-appropriation notice.

6. TERMINATION FOR IMPROPER CONSIDERATION

The Housing Authority may, by written notice to the Contractor, immediately terminate the right of the Contractor to proceed under this Contract, if it is found that consideration, in any form, was offered or given by Contractor, either directly or through an intermediary, to any County office, employee or agent with the intent of securing this Contract or securing favorable treatment with respect to the award, amendment or extension of this Contract or the making of any determinations with respect to the Contractor's performance pursuant to this Contract. In the event of such termination, the Housing Authority shall be entitled to pursue the same remedies against the Contractor as it could pursue in the event of default by the Contractor.

The Contractor shall immediately report any attempt by a Housing Authority officer or employee to solicit such improper consideration. The report shall be made either to the Housing Authority's Executive Director or to the County Auditor-Controller's Employee Fraud Hotline at (800) 544-6861.

Among other items, such improper consideration may take the form of cash, discounts, services, the provision of travel or entertainment, or tangible gifts.

7. ASSIGNMENT BY CONTRACTOR

The Contractor shall not assign its rights or delegate its duties under the Contract, or both, whether in whole or in part, without the prior written consent of the Housing Authority, in its discretion, and any attempted assignment or delegation without such consent shall be null and void. For purposes of this paragraph, Housing Authority consent shall require a written amendment to the Contract, which is formally approved and executed by the parties. Any payments by the Housing Authority to any approved delegate or assignee on any claim under the Contract shall be deductible, at the Housing Authority's sole discretion, against the claims, which the Contractor may have against the Housing Authority. However, the Housing Authority reserves the right to assign this Contract to another public agency without the consent of the Contractor.

Shareholders, partners, members, or other equity holders of the Contractor may transfer, sell, exchange, assign, or divest themselves of any interest they may have therein. However, in the event any such sale, transfer, exchange, assignment, or divestment is affected in such a way as to give majority control of the Contractor to any person(s), corporation, partnership, or legal entity other than the majority controlling interest therein at the time of execution of the Contract, such disposition is an assignment requiring the prior written consent of the Housing Authority in accordance with applicable provisions of this Contract.

Any assumption, assignment, delegation, or takeover of any of the Contractor's duties, responsibilities, obligations, or performance of same by any entity other than the Contractor, whether through assignment, subcontract, delegation, merger, buyout, or any other mechanism, with or without consideration for any reason whatsoever without the Housing Authority's express prior written approval, shall be a material breach of the Contract which may result in the termination of the Contract. In the event of such termination, the Housing Authority shall be entitled to pursue the same remedies against the Contractor as it could pursue in the event of default by the Contractor.

8. CONFIDENTIALITY OF REPORTS

The Contractor shall keep confidential all reports, information and data received, prepared or assembled pursuant to performance hereunder. Such information shall not be made available to any person, firm, corporation or entity without the prior written consent of the Housing Authority.

9. SUBCONTRACTING

The Contractor may subcontract only those specific portions of work allowed in the original specifications covered by this Contract with prior written approval by the Housing Authority.

The Contractor shall not subcontract any part of the work covered by this Contract or permit subcontracted work to be further subcontracted without prior written approval by the Housing Authority.

10. **INSURANCE**

Without limiting Contractor's duties to indemnify and defend as provided in this Contract, Contractor shall procure and maintain, at Contractor's sole expense, the insurance policies described herein. Such insurance shall be secured from carriers admitted in California, or authorized to do business in California. Such carriers shall be in good standing with the California Secretary of State's Office and the California Department of Insurance. Such carriers must be admitted and approved by the California Department of Insurance or must be included on the California Department of Insurance List of Eligible Surplus Line Insurers (hereinafter "LESLI"). Such carriers must have a minimum rating of or equivalent to A:VIII in Best's Insurance Guide. Contractor shall, concurrent with the execution of this Contract, deliver to the Housing Authority certificates of insurance with original endorsements evidencing the insurance coverage required by this Contract. If original endorsements are not immediately available, such endorsements may be delivered subsequent to the execution of this Contract, but no later than thirty (30) days following execution of this Contract. The certificates and endorsements shall be signed by a person authorized by the insurers to bind coverage on its behalf. Contractor shall provide Housing Authority with certificates of insurance and applicable endorsements each year during the term of this Contract to evidence its annual compliance with the insurance requirements set forth herein. The Housing Authority reserves the right to require complete certified copies of all policies at any time. Said insurance shall be in a form acceptable to the Housing Authority and may provide for such deductibles as may be acceptable to the Housing Authority. Any self-insurance program and self-insured retention must be separately approved by the Housing Authority. In the event such insurance does provide for deductibles or self-insurance, Contractor agrees that it will defend, indemnify and hold harmless the Commission, the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles ("Housing Authority"), the County of Los Angeles ("County"), and their elected and appointed officers, officials, representatives, employees, and agents in the same manner as they would have been defended, indemnified and held harmless if full coverage under any applicable policy had been in effect. Each policy shall be endorsed to stipulate that the Housing Authority be given at least thirty (30) days' written notice in advance of any cancellation or any reduction in limit(s) for any policy of insurance required herein. Contractor shall give the Housing Authority immediate notice of any insurance claim or loss which may be covered by insurance. Contractor represents and warrants that the insurance coverage required herein will also be provided by any entities with which Contractor contracts, as detailed below. All certificates of insurance and additional insured endorsements shall carry the following identifier:

BMC Landscape Management, Inc.

The insurance policies set forth herein shall be primary insurance with respect to the Housing Authority. The insurance policies shall contain a waiver of subrogation for the benefit of the Housing Authority. Failure on the part of Contractor, and/or any entities with which Contractor contracts, to procure or maintain the insurance coverage required herein may, upon the Housing Authority's sole discretion, constitute a material breach of this Contract pursuant to which the Housing Authority may immediately terminate this Contract and exercise all other rights and remedies set forth herein, at its sole and absolute discretion, and without waiving such default or limiting the rights or remedies of the Housing Authority, procure or renew such insurance and pay any and all premiums in connection therewith and all monies so paid by the Housing Authority shall be immediately repaid by the Contractor to the Housing Authority upon demand including interest thereon at the default rate. In the event of such a breach, the Housing Authority shall have the right, at its sole election, to participate in and control any insurance claim, adjustment, or dispute with the insurance carrier. Contractor's failure to assert or delay in asserting any claim shall not diminish or impair the Housing Authority's rights against the Contractor or the insurance carrier.

When Contractor, or any entity with which Contractor contracts, is naming the Housing Authority as an additional insured on the general liability insurance policy set forth below, then the additional insured endorsement shall contain language similar to the language contained in ISO form CG 20 10 11 85. In the alternative and in Housing Authority's sole and absolute discretion, it may accept both CG 20 10 10 01 and CG 20 37 10 01 in place of CG 20 10 11 85.

The following insurance policies shall be maintained by Contractor and any entity with which Contractor contracts for the duration of this Contract, unless otherwise set forth herein:

- A. GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE (written on ISO policy form CG 00 01 or its equivalent) including coverage for personal injury, death, property damage, and contractual liability with limits of not less than the following:

General Aggregate	\$2,000,000
Products/Completed Operations Aggregate	\$2,000,000
Personal and Advertising Injury	\$1,000,000
Each Occurrence	\$1,000,000

The Commission Housing Authority, County, and each of their elected and appointed officers, officials, representatives, employees, and agents (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Public Agencies and their Agents"), shall be named as additional insureds for contractor's work on such policy.

- B. AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY INSURANCE (written on ISO policy form CA 00 01 or its equivalent) with a limit of liability of not less than \$1 million for each incident. Such insurance shall include coverage of all "owned", "hired" and "non-owned"

vehicles, or coverage for "any auto". The Housing Authority and their Agents shall be named as additional insureds on such policy.

- C. WORKERS' COMPENSATION and EMPLOYER'S LIABILITY insurance providing worker's compensation benefits, as required by the Labor Code of the State of California. This must include a waiver of subrogation in favor of the Housing Authority and their Agents. In all cases, the above insurance also shall include Employer's Liability coverage with limits of not less than the following:

Each Accident	\$1,000,000
Disease-policy limit	\$1,000,000
Disease-each employee	\$1,000,000

Contractor agrees that it will require all of the above mentioned insurance requirements be incorporated in its contract with any entity with which it contracts in relation to this Contract or in relation to the property or project that is the subject of this Contract.

11. INDEMNIFICATION

The Contractor shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Commission, Housing Authority, County, and each of their elected and appointed officers, officials, representatives, employees, and agents from and against any and all liability, demands, damages, claims, causes of action, expenses, and fees (including reasonable attorney's fees and costs and expert witness fees), including, but not limited to, claims for bodily injury, property damage, and death (hereinafter collectively referred to as "Liabilities"), that arise out of, pertain to, or relate to Contractor's acts, errors, or omissions arising from, pertaining to, or relating to this Contract except to the extent caused by the sole negligence or willful misconduct of Commission, Housing Authority, or County. This indemnification provision shall remain in full force and effect and survive the termination and/or expiration of this Contract. Contractor agrees to require any and all entities with which it contracts to agree to and abide by the above mentioned indemnification requirements in favor of the Commission, Housing Authority, and County, as applicable to each of them.

12. HOUSING AUTHORITY'S QUALITY ASSURANCE PLAN

The Housing Authority will evaluate Contractor's performance under this Contract on not less than an annual basis. Such evaluation will include assessing Contractor's compliance with all contract terms and performance standards. Contractor deficiencies, which Housing Authority determines are severe or continuing and that may place performance of the Contract in jeopardy, if not corrected, will be reported to the Board of Commissioners. The report will include improvement/corrective action measures taken by the Housing Authority and Contractor. If improvement does not occur consistent with the corrective measure, the Housing Authority may terminate this

Contract, pursuant to Paragraph 13 or 14, or impose other remedies as specified in this Contract.

A performance review will be conducted no later than ninety (90) days prior to the end of the first and second years of this Contract to evaluate the performance of the Contractor. Based on the assessment of the performance review, as determined by the Housing Authority in its sole discretion, written notification will be given to the Contractor whether this Contract will be terminated at the end of the current year or will be continued into the next contract year.

13. TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE

The Housing Authority reserves the right to cancel this Contract for any reason at all upon thirty (30) days prior written notice to Contractor. In the event of such termination, Contractor shall be entitled to a prorated portion paid for all satisfactory work unless such termination is made for cause, in which event, compensation if any, shall be adjusted in such termination.

14. TERMINATION FOR CAUSE

This Contract may be terminated by the Housing Authority upon written notice to the Contractor for just cause (failure to perform satisfactorily) with no penalties incurred by the Housing Authority upon termination or upon the occurrence of any of the following events in A, B, C or D:

- A. Should the Contractor fail to perform all or any portion of the work required to be performed hereunder in a timely and good workmanlike manner or properly carry out the provisions of this Contract in their true intent and meaning, then in such case, notice thereof in writing will be served upon the Contractor, and should the Contractor neglect or refuse to provide a means for satisfactory compliance with this Contract and with the direction of the Housing Authority within the time specified in such notice, the Housing Authority shall have the power to suspend or terminate the operations of the Contractor in whole or in part.
- B. Should the Contractor fail within five (5) days to perform in a satisfactory manner, in accordance with the provisions of this Contract, or if the work to be done under this Contract is abandoned for more than three days by the Contractor, then notice of deficiency thereof in writing will be served upon Contractor by the Housing Authority. Should the Contractor fail to comply with the terms of this Contract within five (5) days, upon receipt of said written notice of deficiency, the Executive Director of Housing Authority shall have the power to suspend or terminate the operations of the Contractor in whole or in part.
- C. In the event that a petition of bankruptcy shall be filed by or against the Contractor.

D. If, through any cause, the Contractor shall fail to fulfill, in a timely and proper manner, the obligations under this Contract, or if the Contractor shall violate any of the covenants, Contracts, or stipulations of this Contract, the Housing Authority shall thereupon have the right to terminate this Contract by giving written notice to the Contractor of such termination and specifying the effective date thereof, at least five days before the effective date of such termination. In such event, all finished or unfinished documents, data, studies, surveys, drawings, maps, models, photographs and reports prepared by the Contractor under this Contract shall, at the option of the Housing Authority become its property and the Contractor shall be entitled to receive just and equitable compensation for any work satisfactorily completed.

15. CONTRACTOR'S WARRANTY OF ADHERENCE TO HOUSING AUTHORITY'S CHILD SUPPORT COMPLIANCE PROGRAM

The Contractor acknowledges that the Housing Authority has established a goal of ensuring that all individuals who benefit financially from the Housing Authority through a contract are in compliance with their court-ordered child, family, and spousal support obligations in order to mitigate the economic burden otherwise imposed upon the taxpayers of the County of Los Angeles.

As required by Housing Authority Child Support Compliance Program and without limiting Contractor's duty under this Contract to comply with all applicable provisions of law, Contractor warrants that it is now in compliance and shall, during the term of this Contract, maintain compliance with employment and wage reporting requirements as required by the Federal Social Security Act (42 USC Section 653a) and California Unemployment Insurance Code Section 1088.5, and shall implement all lawfully served Wage and Earnings Withholding Orders or CSSD Notices of Wage and Earnings Assignment for Child or Spousal Support, pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure Section 706.031 and Family Code Section 5246(b).

16. TERMINATION FOR BREACH OF WARRANTY TO COMPLY WITH HOUSING AUTHORITY'S CHILD SUPPORT COMPLIANCE PROGRAM

Failure of the Contractor to maintain compliance with the requirements set forth in Paragraph 15, "*CONTRACTOR'S WARRANTY OF ADHERENCE TO Housing Authority CHILD SUPPORT COMPLIANCE PROGRAM*" shall constitute default under this contract. Without limiting the rights and remedies available to Housing Authority's under any other provision of this contract, failure of Contractor to cure such default within 90 calendar days of written notice shall be grounds upon which Housing Authority may terminate this contract pursuant to Paragraph 14 - "TERMINATION FOR CAUSE" and pursue debarment of Contractor, pursuant to Housing Authority Policy.

17. POST MOST WANTED DELINQUENT PARENTS LIST

The Contractor acknowledges that the County places a high priority on the enforcement of child support laws and the apprehension of child support evaders. The Contractor understands that it is County's and Housing Authority's policy to strongly encourage all Contractors to voluntarily post an entitled "L.A.'s Most Wanted: Delinquent Parents" poster in a prominent position at Contractor's place of business. The Child Support Services Department (CSSD) will supply Contractor with the poster to be used.

18. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR

This Contract does not, is not intended to, nor shall it be construed to create the relationship of agent, employee or joint venture between the Housing Authority and the Contractor.

19. EMPLOYEES OF CONTRACTOR

Workers' Compensation: The Contractor understands and agrees that all persons furnishing services to the Housing Authority pursuant to this Contract are, for the purposes of Workers' Compensation liability, employees solely of the Contractor. Contractor shall bear sole responsibility and liability for providing Workers' Compensation benefits to any person for injuries arising from an accident connected with services provided to the Housing Authority under this Contract.

Professional Conduct: The Housing Authority does not and will not condone any acts, gestures, comments or conduct from the Contractor's employees, agents or subcontractors which may be construed as sexual harassment or any other type of activities or behavior that might be construed as harassment. The Housing Authority will properly investigate all charges of harassment by residents, employees or agents of the Housing Authority against any and all Contractor's employees, agents or subcontractors providing services for the Housing Authority. The Contractor assumes all liability for the actions of the Contractor's employees, agents or subcontractors and is responsible for taking appropriate action after reports of harassment are received by the Contractor.

20. DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE ACT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

The Contractor certifies under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the Contractor will comply with the requirements of the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1990.

21. SAFETY STANDARDS AND ACCIDENT PREVENTION

The Contractor shall comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws governing safety, health and sanitation. The Contractor shall provide all safeguards, safety

devices and protective equipment and take any other needed actions, as its own responsibility, reasonably necessary to protect the life and health of employees on the job and the safety of the public and to protect property in connection with the performance of this Contract.

22. COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS

The Contractor agrees to be bound by all applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations, and directives as they pertain to the performance of this Contract, including but not limited to, the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended by the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act, 1990, and the 24 CFR Part 85, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If the compensation under this Contract is in excess of \$100,000 then Contractor shall comply with applicable standards, orders, or requirements issued under section 306 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 18579h), section 508 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1368), Executive Order 11738, and Environmental Protection Agency Regulations (40 CFR part 15).

The Contractor must obtain and present all relevant state and local insurance, training and licensing pursuant to services required within this Contract.

The Contractor shall comply with the following laws in Sections 23-32, inclusive, and 41- 46, inclusive.

23. CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964, TITLE VI (NON-DISCRIMINATION IN FEDERALLY-ASSISTED PROGRAMS)

The Contractor shall comply with the Civil Rights Act of 1964 Title VI which provides that no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.

24. SECTION 109 OF THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1974

The Contractor shall comply with Section 109 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 which states that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, or sex be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity funded in whole or in part with funds made available under this title.

25. AGE DISCRIMINATION ACT OF 1975 AND SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973

The Contractor shall comply with the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which require that no person in the United States

shall be excluded from participating in, denied the benefits of, or subject to discrimination under this Contract on the basis of age or with respect to an otherwise qualified disabled individual.

26. EXECUTIVE ORDER 11246 AND 11375, EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IN EMPLOYMENT (NON-DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT BY GOVERNMENT CONTRACTORS AND SUBCONTRACTORS)

The Contractor shall comply with Executive Order 11246 and 11375, Equal Opportunity in Employment, which requires that during the performance of this Contract, the Contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex or national origin. The Contractor will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated fairly during employment, without regard to their race, color, religion, sex or national origin. Such action shall include, but not be limited to the following: employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The Contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided by the contracting officer setting forth the provisions of the non-discrimination clause.

The Contractor will, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the Contractor, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex or national origin.

The Contractor will send to each labor union or representative of workers with which he has a collective bargaining Contract or other contract or understanding, a notice to be provided by the agency of the Contractor's commitments under Section 202 of Executive Order No. 11246 of September 24, 1965, and shall post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment. The Contractor will comply with all provisions of Executive Order No. 11246 of September 24, 1965, and of the rules, regulations and relevant orders of the Secretary of Labor.

The Contractor will furnish all information and reports required by the Executive Order and by the rules, regulations and orders of the Secretary of Labor, or pursuant thereto, and will permit access to its books, records, and accounts by the Housing Authority and the Secretary of Labor for purposes of investigation to ascertain compliance with such rules, regulations and orders.

In the event of Contractor's noncompliance with the non-discrimination clauses of this Contract or with any of such rules, regulations or orders, this Contract may be canceled, terminated or suspended in whole or in part and the Contractor may be declared ineligible for further Government contracts in accordance with procedures authorized in the Executive Orders and such other sanctions may be imposed and remedies invoked as provided in the Executive Order or by rule, regulation or order of the Secretary of Labor, or as otherwise provided by law.

The Contractor will include the provisions of these paragraphs in every subcontract or purchase order unless exempted by rules, regulations, or orders of the Secretary of Labor issued pursuant to Section 204 of the Executive Order No. 11246 of September 24, 1965, that such provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor. The Contractor will take such actions with respect to any subcontract or purchase order as the Housing Authority may direct as a means of enforcing such provisions including sanctions for noncompliance, provided however, that in the event the Contractor becomes involved in, or is threatened with litigation by a subcontractor or vendor as a result of such direction by the Housing Authority, the Contractor may request the United States to enter into such litigation to protect the interests of the United States.

27. SECTION 3 OF THE HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1968, AS AMENDED

- A. The work to be performed under this Contract is subject to the requirements of Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended, 12 U.S.C. 1701u (Section 3). The purpose of Section 3 is to ensure that employment and other economic opportunities generated by HUD assistance or HUD-assisted projects covered by Section 3, shall, to the greatest extent feasible, be directed to low-and very low-income persons, particularly persons who are recipients of HUD assistance for housing.
- B. The parties to this Contract agree to comply with HUD's regulations in 24 CFR Part 135, which implement Section 3. As evidenced by their execution of this Contract, the parties to this Contract certify that they are under no contractual or other impediment that would prevent them from complying with the Part 135 regulations.
- C. The Contractor agrees to send to each labor organization or representative of workers with which the Contractor has a collective bargaining Contract or other understanding, if any, a notice advising the labor organization or workers' representative of the Contractor's commitments under this Section 3 clause, and will post copies of the notice in conspicuous places at the work site where both employees and applicants for training and employment positions can see the notice. The notice shall describe the Section 3 preference, shall set forth minimum number and job titles subject to hire, availability of apprenticeship and training positions, the qualifications for each; and the name and location of the person(s) taking applications for each of the positions; and the anticipated date the work shall begin.
- D. The Contractor agrees to include this Section 3 clause in every subcontract subject to compliance with regulations in 24 CFR Part 135, and agrees to take appropriate action, as provided in an applicable provision of the subcontract or in this Section 3 clause, upon a finding that the subcontractor is in violation of the regulations in 24 CFR Part 135. The Contractor will not subcontract with any

subcontractor where the Contractor has notice or knowledge that the subcontractor has been found in violation of the regulations in 24 CFR Part 135.

- E. The Contractor will certify that any vacant employment positions, including training positions, that are filled (1) after the Contractor is selected but before the Contract is executed, and (2) with persons other than those to whom the regulations of 24 CFR part 135 require employment opportunities to be directed, were not filled to circumvent the Contractor's obligations under 24 CFR Part 135.
- F. Noncompliance with HUD's regulations in 24 CFR Part 135 may result in sanctions, termination of this Contract for default, and debarment or suspension from future HUD assisted contracts.
- G. With respect to work performed in connection with Section 3 covered Indian housing assistance, section 7(b) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450e) also applies to the work to be performed under this Contract. Section 7(b) requires that to the greatest extent feasible (i) preference and opportunities for training and employment shall be given to Indians, and (ii) preference in the award of contracts and subcontracts shall be given to Indian organizations and Indian-owned Economic Enterprises. Parties to this Contract that are subject to the provisions of Section 3 and section 7(b) agree to comply with Section 3 to the maximum extent feasible, but not in derogation of compliance with section 7(b).

28. FEDERAL LOBBYIST REQUIREMENTS

The Contractor is prohibited by the Department of Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, known as the Byrd Amendments, and HUD's 24 CFR Part 87, from using federally appropriated funds for the purpose of influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, loan or cooperative Contract, and any extension, continuation, renewal, amendment or modification of said documents.

The Contractor must certify in writing on the Federal Lobbyist Requirements Certification form that they are familiar with the Federal Lobbyist Requirements and that all persons and/or subcontractors acting on behalf of the Contractor will comply with the Lobbyist Requirements.

Failure on the part of the Contractor or persons/subcontractors acting on behalf of the Contractor to fully comply with the Federal Lobbyist Requirements may be subject to civil penalties.

29. NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES REGARDING THE FEDERAL EARNED INCOME CREDIT

The Contractor shall notify its employees, and shall require each subcontractor to notify its employees, that they may be eligible for the Federal Earned Income Credit under the federal income tax laws. Such notice shall be provided in accordance with the requirements set forth in Internal Revenue Service Notice 1015.

30. USE OF RECYCLED-CONTENT PAPER PRODUCTS

Consistent with the Board of Supervisors' policy to reduce the amount of solid waste deposited at the County landfills, the Contractor agrees to use recycled-content paper to the maximum extent possible on the Project.

31. CONTRACTOR RESPONSIBILITY AND DEBARMENT

- A. A responsible contractor is a contractor, consultant, vendor or operating agency who has demonstrated the attribute of trustworthiness, as well as quality, fitness, capacity and experience to satisfactorily perform the contract. It is the policy of the Housing Authority, Commission, and County to conduct business only with responsible contractors.
- B. The Contractor is hereby notified that if the Housing Authority acquires information concerning the performance of the Contractor on this or other contracts which indicates that the Contractor is not responsible, the Housing Authority may, in addition to other remedies provided in the contract, recommend that the Contractor be debarred from bidding or proposing on, or being awarded, and/or performing work on Housing Authority contracts for a specified period of time, which generally will not to exceed five years but may exceed five years or be permanent if warranted by circumstances, and terminate any or all existing contracts the Contractor may have with the Housing Authority.
- C. The Housing Authority may recommend that the Board of Commissioners debar a contractor, consultant, vendor or operating agency if the Board of Commissioners finds, in its discretion, that the contractor has done any of the following: (1) violated any term of a contract with the Housing Authority, Commission, or County or a nonprofit corporation created by the Housing Authority, Commission, or County, (2) committed an act or omission which negatively reflects on the its quality, fitness or capacity to perform a contract with the Housing Authority, Commission, or County, any other public entity, a nonprofit corporation created by the Housing Authority, Commission, or County, or engaged in a pattern or practice which negatively reflects on same, (3) committed an act or offense which indicates a lack of business integrity or business honesty, or (4) made or submitted a false claim against the Housing Authority, Commission, County, or any other public entity.

- D. If there is evidence that the Contractor may be subject to debarment, the Housing Authority will notify the Contractor in writing of the evidence, which is the basis for the proposed debarment and will advise the Contractor of the scheduled date for a debarment hearing before the Contractor Hearing Board.
- E. The Contractor Hearing Board will conduct a hearing where evidence on the proposed debarment is presented. The Contractor and/or the Contractor's representative shall be given an opportunity to submit evidence at that hearing. After the hearing, the Contractor Hearing Board shall prepare a tentative proposed decision, which shall contain a recommendation regarding whether the Contractor should be debarred, and, if so, the appropriate length of time of the debarment. The Contractor and the Housing Authority shall be provided an opportunity to object to the tentative proposed decision prior to its presentation to the Board of Commissioners.
- F. After consideration of any objections, or if no objections are submitted, a record of the hearing, the proposed decision and any other recommendation of the Contract Hearing Board shall be presented to the Board of Commissioners. The Board of Commissioners shall have the right to modify, deny or adopt the proposed decision and recommendation of the Hearing Board.
- G. If a Contractor has been debarred for a period longer than five years, that Contractor may, after the debarment has been in effect for at least five years, submit a written request for review of the debarment determination to reduce the period of debarment or terminate the debarment. The Housing Authority may, in its discretion, recommend that the Board of Commissioners reduce the period of debarment or terminate the debarment if it finds that the Contractor has adequately demonstrated one or more of the following: (1) elimination of the grounds for which the debarment was imposed; (2) a bona fide change in ownership or management; (3) material evidence discovered after debarment was imposed; or (4) any other reason that is in the best interests of the Housing Authority.
- H. The Contractor Hearing Board will consider a request for review of the debarment determination only where (1) the Contractor has been debarred for a period longer than five years; (2) the debarment has been in effect for at least five years; and (3) the request is in writing, states one or more of the ground for reduction of the debarment period or termination of the debarment, and includes supporting documentation. Upon receiving an appropriate request, the Contractor Hearing Board will provide notice of the hearing on the request. At the hearing, the Contractor Hearing Board shall conduct a hearing where evidence on the proposed reduction of debarment period or termination of debarment is presented. This hearing shall be conducted and the request for review decided by the Contractor Hearing Board pursuant to the same procedures as for a debarment Hearing.

The Contractor Hearing Board's proposed decision shall contain a recommendation on the request to reduce the period of debarment or terminate the debarment. The Contractor Hearing Board shall present its proposed decision and recommendation to the Board of Commissioners. The Board of Commissioners shall have the right to modify, deny or adopt the proposed decision and recommendation of the Contractor Hearing Board.

- I. These terms shall also apply to subcontractors and sub-consultants of County, Housing Authority, or Commission contractors, consultants, vendors and agencies.

32. COMPLIANCE WITH JURY SERVICE PROGRAM

- A. Unless the Contractor has demonstrated to the Commission satisfaction either that Contractor is not a "Contractor" as defined under the Jury Service Program or that Contractor qualifies for an exception to the Jury Service Program, Contractor shall have and adhere to a written policy that provides that its Employees shall receive from the Contractor, on an annual basis, no less than five days of regular pay for actual jury service. The policy may provide that Employees deposit any fees received for such jury service with the Contractor or that the Contractor deduct from the Employee's regular pay the fees received for jury service.
- B. For purposes of this Section, "Contractor" means a person, partnership, corporation or other entity which has a contract with the Housing Authority, Commission, or County or a subcontract with a Housing Authority, Commission, or County contractor and has received or will receive an aggregate sum of \$50,000 or more in any 12-month period under one or more Housing Authority, Commission, or County contracts or subcontracts. "Employee" means any California resident who is a full time employee of Contractor. "Full time" means 40 hours or more worked per week, or a lesser number of hours if: 1) the lesser number is a recognized industry standard as determined by the Housing Authority or County, or 2) Contractor has a long-standing practice that defines the lesser number of hours as full-time. Full-time employees providing short-term, temporary services of 90 days or less within a 12-month period are not considered full-time for purposes of the Jury Service Program. If Contractor uses any subcontractor to perform services for the Housing Authority under the Contract, the subcontractor shall also be subject to the provisions of this Section. The provisions of this Section shall be inserted into any such subcontract Contract and a copy of the Jury Service Program shall be attached to the Contract.
- C. If the Contractor is not required to comply with the Jury Service Program when the Contract commences, Contractor shall have a continuing obligation to review the applicability of its "exception status" from the Jury Service Program, and

Contractor shall immediately notify Housing Authority if Contractor at any time either comes within the Jury Service Program's definition of "Contractor" or if Contractor no longer qualifies for an exception to the Program. In either event, Contractor shall immediately implement a written policy consistent with the Jury Service Program. The Housing Authority may also require, at any time during the Contract and at its sole discretion, that Contractor demonstrate to the Housing Authority's satisfaction that Contractor either continues to remain outside of the Jury Service Program's definition of "Contractor" and/or that Contractor continues to qualify for an exception to the Program.

- D. The Contractor's violation of this Section of the contract may constitute a material breach of the Contract. In the event of such material breach, Housing Authority may, in its sole discretion, terminate the Contract and/or bar Contractor from the award of future Housing Authority, Commission, or County contracts for a period of time consistent with the seriousness of the breach.

33. ACCESS AND RETENTION OF RECORDS

The Contractor shall provide access to the Housing Authority, the Federal Grantor agency, the Comptroller General of the United States, or any of their duly authorized representatives to any books, documents, papers and records of the Contractor which are directly pertinent to this Contract for the purpose of making audits, examinations, excerpts and transcriptions.

The Contractor is required to retain the aforementioned records for a period of five years after the Housing Authority pays final payment and other pending matters are closed under this Contract.

34. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Contractor represents, warrants and agrees that to the best of its knowledge, it does not presently have, nor will it acquire during the term of this Contract, any interest direct or indirect, by contract, employment or otherwise, or as a partner, joint venture or shareholder (other than as a shareholder holding a one (1%) percent or less interest in publicly traded companies) or affiliate with any business or business entity that has entered into any contract, subcontract or arrangement with the Housing Authority. Upon execution of this Contract and during its term, as appropriate, the Contractor shall, disclose in writing to the Housing Authority any other contract or employment during the term of this Contract by any other persons, business or corporation in which employment will or may likely develop a conflict of interest between the Housing Authority's interest and the interests of the third parties.

35. SEVERABILITY

In the event that any provision herein is held to be invalid, void, or illegal by any court of competent jurisdiction, the same shall be deemed severable from the

remainder of this Agreement and shall in no way affect, impair or invalidate any other provision contained herein. If any such provision shall be deemed invalid due to its scope or breadth, such provision shall be deemed valid to the extent of the scope or breadth permitted by law.

36. INTERPRETATION

No provision of this Contract is to be interpreted for or against either party because that party or that party's legal representative drafted such provision, but this Contract is to be construed as if drafted by both parties hereto.

37. WAIVER

No breach of any provision hereof can be waived unless in writing. Waiver of any one breach of any provision shall not be deemed to be a waiver of any breach of the same or any other provision hereof.

38. PATENT RIGHTS

The Housing Authority will hold all the patent rights with respect to any discovery or invention, which arises or is developed in the course of, or under this Contract.

39. COPYRIGHT

No report, maps, or other documents produced in whole or in part under this Contract shall be the subject of an application for copyright by or on behalf of the Contractor. All such documents become the property of the Housing Authority and the Housing Authority holds all the rights to said data.

40. NOTICES

The Housing Authority shall provide the Contractor with notice of any injury or damage arising from or connected with services rendered pursuant to this Contract to the extent that Housing Authority has actual knowledge of such injury or damage. Housing Authority shall provide such notice within ten (10) days of receiving actual knowledge of such injury or damage.

Notices provided for in this Contract shall be in writing and shall be addressed to the person intended to receive the same, at the following address:

The Housing Authority: Harold J. Pierce, Director
Administrative Services Division
Housing Authority of the
County of Los Angeles
2 Coral Circle
Monterey Park, CA 91755

The Contractor: Gustavo Occhuizzo, President
BMC Landscape Management, Inc.
13438 Halldale Street
Gardena, CA 90249

Notices addressed as above provided shall be deemed delivered three (3) business days after mailed by U.S. Mail or when delivered in person with written acknowledgement of the receipt thereof. The Contractor and the Housing Authority may designate a different address or addresses for notices to be sent by giving written notice of such change of address to all other parties entitled to receive notice.

41. NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES REGARDING THE SAFELY SURRENDERED BABY LAW

The Contractor shall notify and provide to its employees, and shall require each subcontractor to notify and provide to its employees, a fact sheet regarding the Safely Surrendered Baby Law, its implementation in Los Angeles County, and where and how to safely surrender a baby. The fact sheet is set forth in *Attachment D – Required Contract Notices* of this Contract and is also available on the Internet at www.babysafela.org for printing purposes.

42. CONTRACTOR'S ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF HOUSING AUTHORITY'S COMMITMENT TO THE SAFELY SURRENDERED BABY LAW

The Contractor acknowledges that the Housing Authority places a high priority on the implementation of the Safely Surrendered Baby Law. The Contractor understands that it is the Housing Authority's policy to encourage all Housing Authority Contractors to voluntarily post the Housing Authority's "Safely Surrendered Baby Law" poster in a prominent position at the Contractor's place of business. The Contractor will also encourage its Subcontractors, if any, to post this poster in a prominent position in the Subcontractor's place of business. The Department of Children and Family Services of the County of Los Angeles will supply the Contractor with the poster to be used.

43. CONTRACTOR'S CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS COMPLIANCE

The Supervision of Trustees and Fundraisers for Charitable Purposes Act regulates entities receiving or raising charitable contributions. The "Nonprofit Integrity Act of 2004" (SB 1262, Chapter 919) increased Charitable Purposes Act requirements. By requiring Contractors to complete the Charitable Contributions Certification as included in *Attachment C – Required Contract Forms*, the Housing Authority seeks to ensure that all Housing Authority contractors that receive or raise charitable contributions comply with California law in order to protect the Housing Authority and its taxpayers. A Contractor that receives or raises charitable contributions without

complying with its obligations under California law commits a material breach subjecting it to either contract termination or debarment proceedings, or both.

44. COMPLIANCE WITH THE LIVING WAGE PROGRAM (LWP)

44.1 Living Wage Program

This Contract is subject to the provisions of the Housing Authority's policy entitled Living Wage Program, and incorporated by reference into and made a part of this Contract.

44.2 Payment of Living Wage Rates

44.2.1 Unless the Contractor has demonstrated to the Housing Authority's satisfaction either that the Contractor is not an "Employer" as defined under the Program or that the Contractor qualifies for an exception to the Living Wage Program, the Contractor shall pay its Employees no less than the applicable hourly living wage rate, as set forth immediately below, for the Employees' services provided to the Housing Authority under the Contract:

44.2.2 Not less than \$11.84 per hour if, in addition to the per-hour wage, the Contractor contributes less than \$2.20 per hour towards the provision of bona fide health care benefits for its Employees and any dependents; or

44.2.3 Not less than \$9.64 per hour if, in addition to the per-hour wage, the Contractor contributes at least \$2.20 per hour towards the provision of bona fide health care benefits for its Employees and any dependents. The Contractor will be deemed to have contributed \$2.20 per hour towards the provision of bona fide health care benefits if the benefits are provided through the County Department of Health Services Community Health Plan. If, at any time during the Contract, the Contractor contributes less than \$2.20 per hour towards the provision of bona fide health care benefits, the Contractor shall be required to pay its Employees the higher hourly living wage rate.

44.2.4 For purposes of this Sub-paragraph, "Contractor" includes any subcontractor engaged by the Contractor to perform services for the Housing Authority under the Contract. If the Contractor uses any subcontractor to perform services for the Housing Authority under the Contract, the subcontractor shall be subject to the provisions of this Sub-paragraph. The provisions of this Sub-paragraph shall be inserted into any such subcontract Contract and a copy of the Living Wage Program shall be attached to the Contract. "Employee" means any individual who is an employee of the Contractor under the laws of California, and who is providing

full-time services to the Contractor, some or all of which are provided to the Housing Authority under the Contract. "Full-time" means a minimum of 40 hours worked per week, or a lesser number of hours, if the lesser number is a recognized industry standard and is approved as such by the Housing Authority; however, fewer than 35 hours worked per week will not, in any event, be considered full-time.

44.2.5 If the Contractor is required to pay a living wage when the Contract commences, the Contractor shall continue to pay a living wage for the entire term of the Contract, including any option period.

44.2.6 If the Contractor is not required to pay a living wage when the Contract commences, the Contractor shall have a continuing obligation to review the applicability of its "exemption status" from the living wage requirement. The Contractor shall immediately notify the Housing Authority if the Contractor at any time either comes within the Living Wage Program's definition of "Employer" or if the Contractor no longer qualifies for an exception to the Living Wage Program. In either event, the Contractor shall immediately be required to commence paying the living wage and shall be obligated to pay the living wage for the remaining term of the Contract, including any option period. The Housing Authority may also require, at any time during the Contract and at its sole discretion, that the Contractor demonstrate to the Housing Authority's satisfaction that the Contractor either continues to remain outside of the Living Wage Program's definition of "Employer" and/or that the Contractor continues to qualify for an exception to the Living Wage Program. Unless the Contractor satisfies this requirement within the time frame permitted by the Housing Authority, the Contractor shall immediately be required to pay the living wage for the remaining term of the Contract, including any option period.

44.3 Contractor's Submittal of Certified Monitoring Reports.

The Contractor shall submit to the Housing Authority certified monitoring reports at a frequency instructed by the Housing Authority. The certified monitoring reports shall list all of the Contractor's Employees during the reporting period. The certified monitoring reports shall also verify the number of hours worked, the hourly wage rate paid, and the amount paid by the Contractor for health benefits, if any, for each of its Employees. The certified monitoring reports shall also state the name and identification number of the Contractor's current health care benefits plan, and the Contractor's portion of the premiums paid as well as the portion paid by each Employee. All certified monitoring reports shall be submitted on forms provided by the Housing Authority, or other form approved by the Housing Authority which contains the

above information. The Housing Authority reserves the right to request any additional information it may deem necessary. If the Housing Authority requests additional information, the Contractor shall promptly provide such information. The Contractor, through one of its officers, shall certify under penalty of perjury that the information contained in each certified monitoring report is true and accurate.

44.4 Contractor's Ongoing Obligation to Report Labor Law/Payroll Violations and Claims

During the term of the Contract, if the Contractor becomes aware of any labor law/payroll violation or any complaint, investigation or proceeding ("claim") concerning any alleged labor law/payroll violation (including but not limited to any violation or claim pertaining to wages, hours and working conditions such as minimum wage, prevailing wage, living wage, the Fair Labor Standards Act, employment of minors, or unlawful employment discrimination), the Contractor shall immediately inform the Housing Authority of any pertinent facts known by the Contractor regarding same. This disclosure obligation is not limited to any labor law/payroll violation or claim arising out of the Contractor's contract with the Housing Authority, but instead applies to any labor law/payroll violation or claim arising out of any of the Contractor's operations in California.

44.5 Housing Authority Auditing of Contractor Records.

Upon a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours' written notice, the Housing Authority may audit, at the Contractor's place of business, any of the Contractor's records pertaining to the Contract, including all documents and information relating to the certified monitoring reports. The Contractor is required to maintain all such records in California until the expiration of four years from the date of final payment under the Contract. Authorized agents of the Housing Authority shall have access to all such records during normal business hours for the entire period that records are to be maintained.

44.6 Notifications to Employees.

The Contractor shall place Housing Authority-provided living wage posters at each of the Contractor's places of business and locations where Contractor's Employees are working. The Contractor shall also distribute Housing Authority-provided notices to each of its Employees at least once per year. The Contractor shall translate into Spanish and any other language spoken by a significant number of Employees the posters and handouts.

44.7 Enforcement and Remedies.

If the Contractor fails to comply with the requirements of this Sub-paragraph, the Housing Authority shall have the rights and remedies described in this Sub-paragraph in addition to any rights and remedies provided by law or equity.

44.8 Remedies For Submission of Late or Incomplete Certified Monitoring Reports.

If the Contractor submits a certified monitoring report to the Housing Authority after the date it is due or if the report submitted does not contain all of the required information or is inaccurate or is not properly certified, any such deficiency shall constitute a breach of the Contract. In the event of any such breach, the Housing Authority may, in its sole discretion, exercise any or all of the following rights/remedies:

44.9 Withholding of Payment.

If the Contractor fails to submit accurate, complete, timely and properly certified monitoring reports, the Housing Authority may withhold from payment to the Contractor up to the full amount of any invoice that would otherwise be due, until Contractor has satisfied the concerns of the Housing Authority, which may include required submittal of revised certified monitoring reports or additional supporting documentation.

44.9.1 Liquidated Damages.

It is mutually understood and agreed that the Contractor's failure to submit an accurate, complete, timely and properly certified monitoring report will result in damages being sustained by the Housing Authority. It is also understood and agreed that the nature and amount of the damages will be extremely difficult and impractical to fix; that the liquidated damages set forth herein are the nearest and most exact measure of damages for such breach that can be fixed at this time; and that the liquidated damages are not intended as a penalty or forfeiture for the Contractor's breach. Therefore, in the event that a certified monitoring report is deficient, including but not limited to being late, inaccurate, incomplete or uncertified, it is agreed that the Housing Authority may, in its sole discretion, assess against the Contractor liquidated damages in the amount of \$100 per monitoring report for each day until the Housing Authority has been provided with a properly prepared, complete and certified monitoring report. The Housing Authority may deduct any assessed liquidated damages from any payments otherwise due the Contractor.

44.9.2 Termination.

The Contractor's continued failure to submit accurate, complete, timely and properly certified monitoring reports may constitute a material breach of the Contract. In the event of such material breach, the Housing Authority may, in its sole discretion, terminate the Contract.

44.9.3 Remedies for Payment of Less Than the Required Living Wage. If the Contractor fails to pay any Employee at least the applicable

hourly living wage rate, such deficiency shall constitute a breach of the Contract. In the event of any such breach, the Housing Authority may, in its sole discretion, exercise any or all of the following rights/remedies:

44.9.4 Withholding Payment.

If the Contractor fails to pay one or more of its Employees at least the applicable hourly living wage rate, the Housing Authority may withhold from any payment otherwise due the Contractor the aggregate difference between the living wage amounts the Contractor was required to pay its Employees for a given pay period and the amount actually paid to the employees for that pay period. The Housing Authority may withhold said amount until the Contractor has satisfied the Housing Authority that any underpayment has been cured, which may include required submittal of revised certified monitoring reports or additional supporting documentation.

44.9.5 Liquidated Damages.

It is mutually understood and agreed that the Contractor's failure to pay any of its Employees at least the applicable hourly living wage rate will result in damages being sustained by the Housing Authority. It is also understood and agreed that the nature and amount of the damages will be extremely difficult and impractical to fix; that the liquidated damages set forth herein are the nearest and most exact measure of damages for such breach that can be fixed at this time; and that the liquidated damages are not intended as a penalty or forfeiture for the Contractor's breach. Therefore, it is agreed that the Housing Authority may, in its sole discretion, assess against the Contractor liquidated damages of \$50 per Employee per day for each and every instance of an underpayment to an Employee. The Housing Authority may deduct any assessed liquidated damages from any payments otherwise due the Contractor.

44.9.6 Termination.

The Contractor's continued failure to pay any of its Employees the applicable hourly living wage rate may constitute a material breach of the Contract. In the event of such material breach, the Housing Authority may, in its sole discretion, terminate the Contract.

44.9.7 Debarment.

In the event the Contractor breaches a requirement of this Subparagraph, the Housing Authority may, in its sole discretion, bar the Contractor from the award of future Housing Authority contracts for

a period of time consistent with the seriousness of the breach, not to exceed three years.

44.10 Use of Full-Time Employees.

The Contractor shall assign and use full-time Employees of the Contractor to provide services under the Contract unless the Contractor can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Housing Authority that it is necessary to use non-full-time Employees based on staffing efficiency or Housing Authority requirements for the work to be performed under the Contract. It is understood and agreed that the Contractor shall not, under any circumstance, use non-full-time Employees for services provided under the Contract unless and until the Housing Authority has provided written authorization for the use of same. The Contractor submitted with its bid a full-time Employee staffing plan. If the Contractor changes its full-time Employee staffing plan, the Contractor shall immediately provide a copy of the new staffing plan to the Housing Authority.

44.11 Contractor Retaliation Prohibited.

The Contractor and/or its Employees shall not take any adverse action which would result in the loss of any benefit of employment, any contract benefit, or any statutory benefit for any Employee, person or entity who has reported a violation of the Living Wage Program to the Housing Authority or to any other public or private agency, entity or person. A violation of the provisions of this Sub-paragraph may constitute a material breach of the Contract. In the event of such material breach, the Housing Authority may, in its sole discretion, terminate the Contract.

44.12 Contractor Standards.

During the term of this Contract, the Contractor shall maintain business stability, integrity in employee relations and the financial ability to pay a living wage to its employees. If requested to do so by the Housing Authority, the Contractor shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Housing Authority that the Contractor is complying with this requirement.

44.13 Neutrality in Labor Relations

The Contractor shall not use any consideration received under the Contract to hinder, or to further, organization of, or collective bargaining activities by or on behalf of the Contractor's employees, except that this restriction shall not apply to any expenditure made in the course of good faith collective bargaining, or to any expenditure pursuant to obligations incurred under a bona fide collective bargaining Contract, or which would otherwise be permitted under the provisions of the National Labor Relations Act.

45. CONTRACTOR'S WARRANTY OF COMPLIANCE WITH COUNTY'S DEFAULTED PROPERTY TAX REDUCTION PROGRAM

The Contractor acknowledges that the Housing Authority has established a goal of ensuring that all individuals and businesses that benefit financially from the Housing Authority through contract are current in paying their property tax obligations (secured and unsecured roll) in order to mitigate the economic burden otherwise imposed upon the County and its taxpayers. Unless the Contractor qualifies for an exemption or exclusion, the Contractor warrants and certifies that to the best of its knowledge it is now in compliance, and during the term of this Contract will maintain compliance, with the County's Defaulted Tax Program pursuant to Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.206.

46. TERMINATION FOR BREACH OF WARRANTY TO MAINTAIN COMPLIANCE WITH COUNTY'S DEFAULTED PROPERTY TAX REDUCTION PROGRAM

Failure of the Contractor to maintain compliance with the requirements set forth in Paragraph "CONTRACTOR'S WARRANTY OF COMPLIANCE WITH COUNTY'S DEFAULTED PROPERTY TAX REDUCTION PROGRAM" shall constitute default under this Contract. Without limiting the rights and remedies available to the Housing Authority under any other provision of this Contract, failure of the Contractor to cure such default within 10 days of notice shall be grounds upon which Housing Authority may terminate this contract and/or pursue debarment of the Contractor, pursuant to County's Defaulted Property Tax Reduction Program pursuant to Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.206.

47. AUTHORIZATION WARRANTY

Each party represents and warrants that the person executing this Agreement or any amendment thereto for that party is an authorized agent of such party who has actual authority to bind the party to each and every term, condition and obligation of this Agreement, and that all requirements of each party have been fulfilled to provide such actual authority.

48. ENTIRE CONTRACT

This Contract with Attachments A through D constitutes the entire understanding and Contract of the parties. This Contract includes the following attachments:

- A. Statement of Work
- B. Fee Schedule
- C. Required Contract Forms
- D. Required Contract Notices

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SIGNATURES

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Housing Authority and the Contractor, through their duly authorized officers, have executed this Contract as of the date first above written.

HOUSING AUTHORITY
OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

BMC Landscape Management, Inc.

By _____
Sean Rogan
Executive Director

By _____
Gustavo Occhiuzzo
President

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
JOHN F. KRATTLI
Acting County Counsel

APPROVED AS TO PROGRAM:
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

By _____
Behnaz Tashakorian
Deputy

By _____
Harold J. Pierce
Director

ATTACHMENT A

STATEMENT OF WORK

STATEMENT OF WORK

(Insert language)

ATTACHMENT B

FEE SCHEDULE

FEE SCHEDULE

(Insert language/cost information)

ATTACHMENT C

REQUIRED CONTRACT FORMS

(Insert all applicable required forms)

ATTACHMENT D

REQUIRED CONTRACT NOTICES

BACKGROUND AND RESOURCES: CALIFORNIA CHARITIES REGULATION

There is a keen public interest in preventing misuse of charitable contributions. California's "Supervision of Trustees and Fundraisers for Charitable Purposes Act" regulates those raising and receiving charitable contributions. The "Nonprofit Integrity Act of 2004" (SB 1262, Chapter 919) tightened Charitable Purposes Act requirements for charitable organization administration and fundraising.

The Charitable Purposes Act rules cover California public benefit corporations, unincorporated associations, and trustee entities. They may include similar foreign corporations doing business or holding property in California. Generally, an organization is subject to the registration and reporting requirements of the Charitable Purposes Act if it is a California nonprofit public benefit corporation or is tax exempt under Internal Revenue Code § 501(c)(3), and not exempt from reporting under Government Code § 12583. Most educational institutions, hospitals, cemeteries, and religious organizations are exempt from Supervision of Trustees Act requirements.

Key new Charitable Purposes Act requirements affect executive compensation, fundraising practices and documentation. Charities with over \$2 million of revenues (excluding grants and service-contract funds a governmental entity requires to be accounted for) have new audit requirements. Charities required to have audits must also establish an audit committee whose members have no material financial interest in any entity doing business with the charity.

Organizations or persons that receive or raise charitable contributions are likely to be subject to the Charitable Purposes Act. A bidder/proposer on Commission and/or Housing Authority contracts must determine if it is subject to the Charitable Purposes Act and certify either that:

- It is not presently subject to the Act, but will comply if later activities make it subject, or,
- If subject, it is currently in compliance.

RESOURCES

The following resource references are offered to assist bidders/proposers who engage in charitable contributions activities, however, each bidder/proposer is responsible to research and determine its own legal obligations and properly complete the Charitable Contributions Certification form.

In California, supervision of charities is the responsibility of the Attorney General, whose website, <http://caag.state.ca.us/>, contains much information helpful to regulated charitable organizations.

1. LAWS AFFECTING NONPROFITS

The "Supervision of Trustees and Fundraisers for Charitable Purposes Act" is found at California Government Code §§ 12580 through 12599.7. Implementing regulations are found at Title 11, California Code of Regulations, §§ 300 through 312. In California, charitable solicitations ("advertising") are governed by Business & Professions Code §§ 17510 through 17510.95. Regulation of nonprofit corporations is found at Title 11, California Code of Regulations, §§ 999.1 through 999.5. (Amended regulations are pending.) Links to all of these rules are at: <http://caag.state.ca.us/charities/statutes.htm>.

2. SUPPORT FOR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

Several organizations offer both complimentary and fee-based assistance to nonprofits, including in Los Angeles, the *Center for Nonprofit Management*, 606 S. Olive St #2450, Los Angeles, CA 90014 (213) 623-7080 <http://www.cnmsocal.org/>, and statewide, the *California Association of Nonprofits*, <http://www.canonprofits.org/>. Both organizations' websites offer information about how to establish and manage a charitable organization.

The above information, including the organizations listed, is for informational purposes only. Nothing contained in this sub-section shall be construed as an endorsement by the Commission of such organizations.



Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Notice 1015

(Rev. December 2009)

Have You Told Your Employees About the Earned Income Credit (EIC)?

What Is the EIC?

The EIC is a refundable tax credit for certain workers.

Which Employees Must I Notify About the EIC?

You must notify each employee who worked for you at any time during the year and from whom you did not withhold income tax. However, you do not have to notify any employee who claimed exemption from withholding on Form W-4, Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate.

Note. You are encouraged to notify each employee whose wages for 2009 are less than \$48,279 that he or she may be eligible for the EIC.

How and When Must I Notify My Employees?

You must give the employee one of the following:

- The IRS Form W-2, Wage and Tax Statement, which has the required information about the EIC on the back of Copy B.
- A substitute Form W-2 with the same EIC information on the back of the employee's copy that is on Copy B of the IRS Form W-2.
- Notice 797, Possible Federal Tax Refund Due to the Earned Income Credit (EIC).
- Your written statement with the same wording as Notice 797.

If you are required to give Form W-2 and do so on time, no further notice is necessary if the Form W-2 has the required information about the EIC on the back of the employee's copy. If a substitute Form W-2 is given on time but does not have the required information, you must notify the employee within 1 week of the date the substitute Form W-2 is given. If Form W-2 is required but is not given on time, you must give the employee Notice 797 or your written statement by the date Form W-2 is required to be given. If Form W-2 is not required, you must notify the employee by February 8, 2010.

You must hand the notice directly to the employee or send it by First-Class Mail to the employee's last known address. You will not meet the notification requirements by posting Notice 797 on an employee bulletin board or sending it through office mail. However, you may want to post the notice to help inform all employees of the EIC. You can get copies of the notice from the IRS website at www.irs.gov or by calling 1-800-829-3676.

How Will My Employees Know If They Can Claim the EIC?

The basic requirements are covered in Notice 797. For more detailed information, the employee needs to see Pub. 596, Earned Income Credit (EIC), or the instructions for Form 1040, 1040A, or 1040EZ.

How Do My Employees Claim the EIC?

Eligible employees claim the EIC on their 2009 tax return. Even employees who have no tax withheld from their pay or owe no tax can claim the EIC and get a refund, but they must file a tax return to do so. For example, if an employee has no tax withheld in 2009 and owes no tax but is eligible for a credit of \$829, he or she must file a 2009 tax return to get the \$829 refund.

How Do My Employees Get Advance EIC Payments?

Eligible employees who expect to have a qualifying child for 2010 can get part of the credit with their pay during the year by giving you a completed Form W-5, Earned Income Credit Advance Payment Certificate. You must include advance EIC payments with wages paid to these employees, but the payments are not wages and are not subject to payroll taxes. Generally, the payments are made from withheld income, social security, and Medicare taxes. For details, see Pub. 15 (Circular E), Employer's Tax Guide.

Notice **1015** (Rev. 12-2009)
Cat. No. 205991

Safely Surrendered



No shame. No blame. No names.

In Los Angeles County: 1-877-BABY SAFE • 1-877-222-9723

www.babysafela.org



Safely Surrendered Baby Law

What is the Safely Surrendered Baby Law?

California's Safely Surrendered Baby Law allows parents or other persons, with lawful custody, which means anyone to whom the parent has given permission to confidentially surrender a baby. As long as the baby is three days (72 hours) of age or younger and has not been abused or neglected, the baby may be surrendered without fear of arrest or prosecution.

In Los Angeles County: 1 877 BABY SAFE 1 877 222 9723

www.babysafela.org

How does it work?

A distressed parent who is unable or unwilling to care for a baby can legally, confidentially, and safely surrender a baby within three days (72 hours) of birth. The baby must be handed to an employee at a hospital or fire station in Los Angeles County. As long as the baby shows no sign of abuse or neglect, no name or other information is required. In case the parent changes his or her mind at a later date and wants the baby back, staff will use bracelets to help connect them to each other. One bracelet will be placed on the baby, and a matching bracelet will be given to the parent or other surrendering adult.

What if a parent wants the baby back?

Parents who change their minds can begin the process of reclaiming their baby within 14 days. These parents should call the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services at 1-800-540-4000.

Can only a parent bring in the baby?

No. While in most cases a parent will bring in the baby, the Law allows other people to bring in the baby if they have lawful custody.

Does the parent or surrendering adult have to call before bringing in the baby?

No. A parent or surrendering adult can bring in a baby anytime, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, as long as the parent or surrendering adult surrenders the baby to someone who works at the hospital or fire station.

Does the parent or surrendering adult have to tell anything to the people taking the baby?

No. However, hospital or fire station personnel will ask the surrendering party to fill out a questionnaire designed to gather important medical history information, which is very useful in caring for the baby. The questionnaire includes a stamped return envelope and can be sent in at a later time.

What happens to the baby?

The baby will be examined and given medical treatment. Upon release from the hospital, social workers immediately place the baby in a safe and loving home and begin the adoption process.

What happens to the parent or surrendering adult?

Once the parent or surrendering adult surrenders the baby to hospital or fire station personnel, they may leave at any time.

Why is California doing this?

The purpose of the Safely Surrendered Baby Law is to protect babies from being abandoned, hurt or killed by their parents. You may have heard tragic stories of babies left in dumpsters or public bathrooms. Their parents may have been under severe emotional distress. The mothers may have hidden their pregnancies, fearful of what would happen if their families found out. Because they were afraid and had no one or nowhere to turn for help, they abandoned their babies. Abandoning a baby is illegal and places the baby in extreme danger. Too often, it results in the baby's death. The Safely Surrendered Baby Law prevents this tragedy from ever happening again in California.

A baby's story

Early in the morning on April 9, 2005, a healthy baby boy was safely surrendered to nurses at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center. The woman who brought the baby to the hospital identified herself as the baby's aunt and stated the baby's mother had asked her to bring the baby to the hospital on her behalf. The aunt was given a bracelet with a number matching the anklet placed on the baby; this would provide some identification in the event the mother changed her mind about surrendering the baby and wished to reclaim the baby in the 14-day period allowed by the Law. The aunt was also provided with a medical questionnaire and said she would have the mother complete and mail back in the stamped return envelope provided. The baby was examined by medical staff and pronounced healthy and full-term. He was placed with a loving family that had been approved to adopt him by the Department of Children and Family Services.



Ley de Entrega de Bebés *Sin Peligro*



Los recién nacidos pueden ser entregados en forma segura al personal de cualquier hospital o cuartel de bomberos del Condado de Los Ángeles

Sin pena. Sin culpa. Sin nombres.

En el Condado de Los Ángeles: 1-877-BABY SAFE • 1-877-222-9723

www.babysafela.org



Ley de Entrega de Bebés Sin Peligro

¿Qué es la Ley de Entrega de Bebés sin Peligro?

La Ley de Entrega de Bebés sin Peligro de California permite la entrega confidencial de un recién nacido por parte de sus padres u otras personas con custodia legal, es decir cualquier persona a quien los padres le hayan dado permiso. Siempre que el bebé tenga tres días (72 horas) de vida o menos, y no haya sufrido abuso ni negligencia, pueden entregar al recién nacido sin temor de ser arrestados o procesados.

Cada recién nacido se merece la oportunidad de tener una vida saludable. Si alguien que usted conoce está pensando en abandonar a un recién nacido, infórmele que tiene otras opciones. Hasta tres días (72 horas) después del nacimiento, se puede entregar un recién nacido al personal de cualquier hospital o cuartel de bomberos del condado de Los Angeles.

¿Cómo funciona?

El padre/madre con dificultades que no pueda o no quiera cuidar de su recién nacido puede entregarlo en forma legal, confidencial y segura dentro de los tres días (72 horas) del nacimiento. El bebé debe ser entregado a un empleado de cualquier hospital o cuartel de bomberos del Condado de Los Ángeles. Siempre que el bebé no presente signos de abuso o negligencia, no será necesario suministrar nombres ni información alguna. Si el padre/madre cambia de opinión posteriormente y desea recuperar a su bebé, los trabajadores utilizarán brazaletes para poder vincularlos. El bebé llevará un brazalete y el padre/madre o el adulto que lo entregue recibirá un brazalete igual.

¿Qué pasa si el padre/madre desea recuperar a su bebé?

Los padres que cambien de opinión pueden comenzar el proceso de reclamar a su recién nacido dentro de los 14 días. Estos padres deberán llamar al Departamento de Servicios para Niños y Familias (Department of Children and Family Services) del Condado de Los Ángeles al 1-800-540-4000.

¿Sólo los padres podrán llevar al recién nacido?

No. Si bien en la mayoría de los casos son los padres los que llevan al bebé, la ley permite que otras personas lo hagan si tienen custodia legal.

¿Los padres o el adulto que entrega al bebé deben llamar antes de llevar al bebé?

No. El padre/madre o adulto puede llevar al bebé en cualquier momento, las 24 horas del día, los 7 días de la semana, siempre y cuando entreguen a su bebé a un empleado del hospital o cuartel de bomberos.

¿Es necesario que el padre/madre o adulto diga algo a las personas que reciben al bebé?

No. Sin embargo, el personal del hospital o cuartel de bomberos le pedirá a la persona que entregue al bebé que llene un cuestionario con la finalidad de recabar antecedentes médicos importantes, que resultan de gran utilidad para cuidar bien del bebé. El cuestionario incluye un sobre con el sello postal pagado para enviarlo en otro momento.

¿Qué pasará con el bebé?

El bebé será examinado y le brindarán atención médica. Cuando le den el alta del hospital, los trabajadores sociales inmediatamente ubicarán al bebé en un hogar seguro donde estará bien atendido, y se comenzará el proceso de adopción.

¿Qué pasará con el padre/madre o adulto que entregue al bebé?

Una vez que los padres o adulto hayan entregado al bebé al personal del hospital o cuartel de bomberos, pueden irse en cualquier momento.

¿Por qué se está haciendo esto en California?

La finalidad de la Ley de Entrega de Bebés sin Peligro es proteger a los bebés para que no sean abandonados, lastimados o muertos por sus padres. Usted probablemente haya escuchado historias trágicas sobre bebés abandonados en basureros o en baños públicos. Los padres de esos bebés probablemente hayan estado pasando por dificultades emocionales graves. Las madres pueden haber ocultado su embarazo, por temor a lo que pasaría si sus familias se enteraran. Abandonaron a sus bebés porque tenían miedo y no tenían nadie a quien pedir ayuda. El abandono de un recién nacido es ilegal y pone al bebé en una situación de peligro extremo. Muy a menudo el abandono provoca la muerte del bebé. La Ley de Entrega de Bebés sin Peligro impide que vuelva a suceder esta tragedia en California.

Historia de un bebé

A la mañana temprano del día 9 de abril de 2005, se entregó un recién nacido saludable a las enfermeras del Harbor-UCLA Medical Center. La mujer que llevó el recién nacido al hospital se dio a conocer como la tía del bebé, y dijo que la madre le había pedido que llevara al bebé al hospital en su nombre. Le entregaron a la tía un brazalete con un número que coincidía con la pulsera del bebé; esto serviría como identificación en caso de que la madre cambiara de opinión con respecto a la entrega del bebé y decidiera recuperarlo dentro del período de 14 días que permite esta ley. También le dieron a la tía un cuestionario médico, y ella dijo que la madre lo llenaría y lo enviaría de vuelta dentro del sobre con franqueo pagado que le habían dado. El personal médico examinó al bebé y se determinó que estaba saludable y a término. El bebé fue ubicado con una buena familia que ya había sido aprobada para adoptarlo por el Departamento de Servicios para Niños y Familias.

